TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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EDITORIAL OPINION

SCHOOL BANDS ARE A GOOD THING

Those in Roanoke last Saturday to witness the Shrine-sponsored football game between Virginia Military Institute and the College of William and Mary, saw an outstanding pre-game and half -time spectacle. Some 23 high school and junior high school bands were on the field. At the half intermission, the school bands, with approximately 1,700 boys and girls, played in unison, as over 100 majorettes performed. It alone was worth the trip to Roanoke. That 1,700 Virginia boys and girls can mass on a field and play as one group, is a tribute to the boys and girls and to the directors of the bands. The directors took turns in leading the massed bands.

The colorful band uniforms added autumn sparkle to the occasion.

Those who attend the big football games in North Carolina have often seen a similar massing of school bands. And out in Michigan recently some 65 bands massed on the field for perhaps a record in number of musicians performing togetrer.

For the recent Home-coming at Appomattox High School, the Buckingham High School Band furnished parade music.

Appomattox has been slow in getting a school band ready for public performances. Certainly patrons have given reasonable support to the effort. We could hope that an extra effort be made to a school band going here. The school is large enough and the latent interest is present. Let's make the school band a major project!

ELECTIONS ARE NOW UNPREDICTABLE

The vast increase in the size of the independent vote in elections in this nation, is a feature of our time. It is becoming more so. In most of the states, the balance of power is held by independents: voters who might go either way as between the two major parties.

It seems to us that this point has been well expressed by the New York Times in an editorial, entitled, "Nothing Happens Twice." It says in part:

"Politics would be much simpler if like the weather, its trends could be scientifically predicted. Unfortunately, even the Weather Bureau sometimes errs when it encounters hurricanes, and the political predicitors are far less reliable. Wind from the east, or wind from the west; we scarcely know in advance how it is going to blow and how strongly.....

"The truth is that this is a country and an age of great change—so much so that we could say pretty confidently that, politically speaking nothing happens twice. The old influences are affected by new influences.Population grows but it does not grow evenly. Centers of cities lose to outlying districts. New industrial areas, as in Detroit, and still more recently in Los Angeles, overshadow the old ones. Southerners come north without losing their Southern sentiments. Easterners go West without losing their Eastern sentiments.......

The Times then goes on to say:

"The Eighty-fourth Congress which will meet on Jan. 5, will undoubtedly be just as responsible to the President's foreign policy as the Eighty-third Congress was. Mr. Eisenhower has had Democratic votes for foreign aid and has needed them —he will still have them. The European and Far Eastern Treaties which presumably will be introduced at this week's special session of the Senate, would go through the Senate as at present constituted and will undoubtedly go through the new Senate, which will have the final word. On economic policies the President may have to compromise a little, although he will not have to move very far to the Left in order to obtain a majority. In both houses the heads of committees will be Democrats, but they will not be fire-eating Democrats—they will be Democrats tempered by age and sobered by seniority. The wild men will not be running the show next year any more than they were this year. Mr. Eisenhower can get things done about as well as any President can in the latter half of his term, and about as well as he could have done if he had retained his so-called majorities."

THE ART OF WRITING

(By Ernest Hemingway)

"Prose is architexture, not interior decoration, and the Baroque is past. People in a novel, not skillfully constructed characters must be projected from the writer's assimulated experience, from his knowledge, from his head, from his heart and from all that there is of him. If he ever has luck as well as seriousness and gets them out entire, they will have more than one dimension and they will last a long time.

"There are some things which cannot be learned quickly, and time which is all we have, must be paid heavily for their acquiring. They are the simplest things, and because it takes a man's life to know them the little new that each man gets from life is very costly and the only heritage he has to leave.

"Every novel which is truly written contributes to the total knowledge which is there at the disposal of the next writer who comes, but the next writer must pay, always, a certain nominal percentage in experience to be able to understand and assimulate what is available as his birthright and what he must, in turn, take his departure from.

"A writer who appreciates the seriousness of writing so little that he is anxious to make people see he is formally educated, cultured or well-bred is merely a popinjay. And this too, remember a serious writer is not to be confused with a solemn writer. A serious writer may be a hawk or a buzzard or even a popinjay, but a solemn writer is always a bloody owl."

MELTING OR WOBBLING?

(Christian Science Monitor)

News of the planned American expedition to Antarctica cannot but bring back a little of the thrill of vicarious adventure that fanned out from the Byrd expeditions. This next one is aimed also at accumulating scientific data. A little less harrowing, perhaps, that Admiral Byrd's lone vigil in his one-man base on the frigid wastes is the proposal that three men spend a year on the very South Pole itself. And, like the earlier expeditions, this one has no ostensible objective of an international political nature. No permanent bases for the United States are proposed.

A new element of a scientific nature enters into this expedition that was not talked about in connection with former expeditions. There is a theory, taken soberly, abeit without alarm, but such eminent climatologists as C. E. P. Brooks, that if the melting of the great polar ice caps should continue at the present rate the level of the oceans could rise to a point at which most of the great seaports and fertile lowlands of the earth would gradually disappear under 100 or more feet of salt water. The staff of the American ice-breaker Atka is expected to ascertain if possible what the prospects for such a cataclysm may be.

There is another contrary theory put forth in all seriousness by a veteran engineer but not as yet accepted, so far as we know, in learned circles: That the weight of ice at the poles — especially on Antarctia—is causing the earth to "wobble" on its axis. And that only atomic bombing of these ice masses can prevent a physical revolution which might submerge all the centers of civilization and relocate the frigid poles in Ecuador and Sumatra, where he thinks they once were.

The Atka's team might make a try at measuring the wobble while it's right on the spot.

THE TEN GREATEST MINDS

(The Greensboro Daily News)

Who had the 10 greatest minds in history? Will Durant nominates the following:

Confucius
Plato
Aristotle
St. Thomas Aquinas
Copernicus
Francis Bacon
Isaac Newton
Voltaire
Immanuel Kant
Charles Darwin

He leaves out Karl Marx and Albert Einstein as too recent to allow us to say whether their influence will be lasting.

WELL, it's an open game. Any number can play. We'd substitute Shakespeare for Bacon, perhaps. Dostoyevsky might run Voltaire a tight race. Leonardo da Vinci ought to be in the lineup, if only as a utility man. Jefferson, Franklin and Spinoza are varsity material. Arnold J. Toynbee may be a rookie but he has a fine batting average and looks like a coming star.

The great religious leaders may be left out by common consent. Confusius, who leads the list, wasn't much on spiritual matters, whereas his great contemporary Lao Tze was.

The Orientals are apparently not invited, though a good case might be made for, say Moses, Asoka and Akbar.

And it seems to us that there ought to be a woman in there somewhere.

HORSE POPULATION CONTINUES DECLINE

The declinee of hores and mules from 17,000,000 head down to less than 6,000,000 head in 20 years has released enough land to produce the food needs for 18,000,000 people.

VPI specialists say the yearly decline from 1950 to 1953 was 596,000 head of horses and mules. This released enough acreage to produce food for 935,000 people each year.

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Chick Chats

Success with poultry depends as much on good husbandry as on quality birds or good housing. Persons known to have consistently "good luck" with their poultry operations are usually not merely lucky—they just know from experience that certain practices succeed and others fail.

The laying flock should be observed carefully and regularly. A good poultryman notes the first sign of feathers in the litter and he notices birds that are slow to come off the roost in the morning. He periodically weighs a few of the birds to keep an accurate check on physical condition of his flock.

This attention to detail is more or less second nature to the experienced poultry raiser. The results of such close observation enables him to anticipate trouble before it has reached serious proportions and to do something about it.

Fowls of all sorts are highly responsive to regularity in feeding. Interruption in the feeding schedule causes birds to become irritated and fretful and may reduce feed consumption with a corresponding loss in production. It is wise to set up a regular feeding schedule and to stick to it.

The flock should have plenty of feeders and waterers — at least one foot of feeder space for every four birds and one 5-gallon waterer for every 100 birds. Fill the hoppers about two-thirds full with clean mash, making sure that it is mixed with mash remaining in the feeders so that birds eat both old and new.

Ventlation should be regulated so that the poultry house is kept warm and dry. Clean, fresh air — minus drafts — is essential. It not only promotes better health but also prevents dampness and carries off foul unpleasant odors. Adjustable windows can provide most laying houses with suitable ventilation.

The presence of unprofitable birds in the flock, regardless of how few, is a definite handicap. It's important to cull any birds that show inactivity and are not producing well.

Practice sound sanitation always. Waterers and feeders should be disinfected regularly and nesting materials should be kept clean. Old-fashioned cleanliness is still needed to prevent and control disease—in spite of the many drugs and vaccines that serve to keep down disease.

Maneb is New Coined Name

"Maneb" has been selected by the Indepartmental Committee on Pest Control as the coined name for the fungicide, manganese ethylene bisdithiocarbamate.

S. B. Fenne, plant pathologist at VPI, says the committee is comprised of a group of college staff members appointed by the American Society of Plant Pathologists.

Maneb has previously been known by the chemical name and also as manganese EBD, McEBDm, and sometimes MEB.

The name refers to the pure chemical and technical grade must indicate the percentage of active material present. It is commercially available as "Manzate," and Dithana M-22.

Evergreen School War Veter[ans]

WORLD WAR I VETERANS

The following World War I veterans came from the Evergreen public school. The school recently observed its fiftieth anniversary.

Frank Glover
Walter Sullivan
Lacy Finch
Bernard Farrar
Tucker Cheatham
Peyton Harvey

WORLD WAR II VETERANS

The following veterans of World War II came from the Evergreen public school, which recently celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

Austin, Howard; Austin, Roy; Baker, Jack; Buckner, Delmos; Buckner, Dennis; Carrico, Billy; Cheatham, James E.; Chocklett, Andrew B.; Clapp, Dan; Clapp, Enid; Clapp, Hugh; Clapp, J. M.; Cralle, [...] Jr.; Evans, Randolph; Evans, [...] Jr. (Pete); Farrar, Claude [...] lier, Simon; Glover, Bobby; [...] Eugene; Glover, Frankie; [...] Albert; Harvey, Dan; Harvey, [...] ward; Harvey, Henry; Harvey, [...] man; Harvey, Jimmy; Harvey, [...] Harvey, Thomas Edward; [...] son, Owen; LeGrande, A[...] Martin, Glen; Notestein, [...] Paulett, Billy; Paulett, Burke; [...] ett, Dwight; Paulett, Edwin; [...] ett, Gene; Paulett, James, [...] Joe; Paulett, Kermit; Paulett, [...] Paulett, Temple; Simmons, F[...] Smith, Fred; Smith, Billy; [...] Gordon; Staples, Henry Jr.; [...] Ryland; Warriner, Roy; Wo[...] John Lawson.

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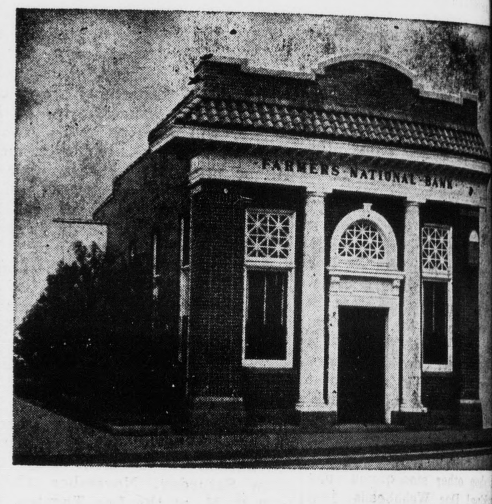

There's no better advice for any person than to save regularly. That's the sure way of making your future free from worry . . . and of having the things you want from life. Whatever your income, start the habit of saving a certain amount each pay day. Your savings will earn our regular rate of interest and you'll be amazed at how fast your account will grow. Stop in today and open your account.

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History of the Evergreen School . . . 1904-1954

[H]ampton, Virginia in 1634. [...] Symes founded the first [s]chool in America. This was [...] an individual. It wasn't un[til] [Dece]mber 23, 1796 that the General [As]sembly of Virginia passed [an act] to establish public schools." [It] was nearly a hundred years [...] 1870, before the first public [schools] were started. Prior to this the only educational facilities [in the] county were: home tutors, [private]ly operated academies (one was run at Spout Springs) and [...] schools. A teacher in free [schools] made from $25 to $50 a [...] Two to four cents per day per [...] was the regular rate in free [...] As late as 1900 a citizen of [Appom]attox county paid three different school taxes: 10¢ on the $100 [st]ate school tax; 5¢ on the $100 [co]unty school tax, 10¢ on the [d]istrict school tax. With a very [...] rate in 1905, Appomattox [...] in doubling her county [d]istrict levies. This year the [...] for the county went to 10¢ [...] and the three districts to [...] $100. In this year no money [was r]aised by private subscription [...] in 1907, $1500 was raised. [...] of teachers in 1904-05 was [...] $20 per month, according [to cer]tificate held by teacher. Also, [...]'s association had been [...] with public meetings [...].

[Fir]st public school in Appo[mattox] County was near the old [...] house and taught by Jim H. [...], father of the late N. R. [...]. Our first school super[intendent] was Chap H. Chilton. The [...] at this time had a term of [...] months, beginning the mid[dle of O]ctober and closing the mid[dle of M]arch. The term was increas[ed in 19]06 to 6 months.

[Appom]attox County was divided [into thre]e school districts: Stone[wall, Cl]over Hill, and Southside. [...] was in the Southside Dis[trict. Eac]h district had three school [trustees.] In 1904 our trustees were [...]illiams, chairman; S. J. Lee [...] Smith, clerk. J. Kirk Han[...] Supt.

[The sc]hool that served Evergreen [before] the founding of our present [...] was "New Light School," a [...] structure located on the [...] Milton Hudson, a mile south [of the v]illage. We have no record [of its or]igin, but we do have some [...] incidents of its closing. [...] two years, 1902-03, 1903-04, [ta]ught by Miss Bertha Wool[dridge] with 38 pupils.

[At a] regular meeting of the [Southsi]de School Board held at [A]ppomattox August 20, 1904 [...] agreed to join Clover [Hill and] Southside Districts and [build a] schoolhouse at Evergreen to [...] school. Said school to be [...] year by the School Board. [In 1]904, land for a school build[ing was] purchased from J. H. Cheat[ham.] This deed is now on display. [...] certificate of acknowledgement [...] certificate of approval by the [...] Circuit Court of Appomat[tox, J]udge Hundley. The same was [admitte]d to record by Jas. T. Peers [...] In this deed are named the [...] trustees for Southside Dis[trict:] T. A. Smith, S. J. Lee, L. A. [...], and H. R. Pitman, Joel [...], John F. Dickerson for Clover [...] Mr. Watkins is the only liv[ing me]mber of this board.

[Earl]y in the fall of 1904, work was begun on the building of the Evergreen school. The house was ready for occupancy by opening of the school term.

Miss Emma Smith, daughter of the late Thos. A. Smith was Evergreen's first teacher.

Evergreen's next teacher for the term 1905-06, was Miss Addie Dawson. We have no record or incident of the year she taught. Suffice to say, it was here that Alice Hudson Cheatham Babcock had her start and her intervening fifty years have been spent in a school room. After her graduation from Appomattox High School and Randolph - Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, she took post-graduate work at Columbia University in New York. She now holds a B. A. and M. A. degree and is assistant principal in one of Columbia, S. C. high schools.

At a called meeting of the Southside District School Board held at Appomattox C. H. on August 19 1907, J. C. Jones resigned as clerk, and J. R. Hamilton was elected in his place. It is to the late Mr. Hamilton that we owe our records and most all our information on the early Evergreen school. Mr. Hamilton has been dead one year. The records of early meetings of the school board are found in his papers.

One such record reads: "At a regular meeting of Southside School Board held in school room at court house Nov. 9, 1899, the following trustees being present: L. A. Williams, chairman; S. J. Lee, Thos. A. Smith, clerk, the board passed a resolution starting all schools which had been stopped on account of smallpox in the neighborhood; also a resolution compelling every teacher and child to be vaccinated before entering school. This is to go into effect Nov. 13, 1899. After issuing warrants, the board adjourned. T. A. Smith, clk."

In Mr. Hamilton's own handwriting we have record of the appointment by the board of Miss Bertha Wooldridge to teach Evergreen school in 1907. She taugh two years following Miss Addie Dawson. Miss Bertha (Mrs. Jim Martin) still lives and has her original roll book for 1907-08.

Through the untiring efforts of Mr. Hamilton, another classroom was added to the school in 1914. It was due to his memory that his daughter-in-law, Mrs. John Kent Hamilton took a leading role in preparing the fiftieth anniversary program. It was in 1914, with Miss Margaret McDonald and Miss Emma Cawthorn as teachers, that on the opening day of school, J. R. Hamilton took his only son on horseback with him and rode to the school. The small lad was deposited in the schoolroom, which was still minus a porch and after a few words with Miss Margaret the school trustee rode off. The teacher's attention was drawn elsewhere, and when she looked back the young pupil had jumped from the school entrance and was running up the road as fast as his feet would carry him, after his "Papa, Papa!" This lad is our present postmaster, John Kent Hamilton.

In the spring of 1917 came the cry of war. So far as we cen determine, six former pupils of the Evergreen school served with the A. E. F. in World War I. The first draft call from Appomattox County was for eight men, who entrained for Camp Lee on Sept. 6, 1917, headed by Frank P. Glover, of Evergreen.

In 1922, Evergreen school secured Misses Lois Whitehead and Lucie Butler as teachers, the latter being fresh from Farmville Normal. Lucie taught here one year and elsewhere four others, then came back to our community as Mrs. Lucie Staples wife of one of our charter pupils Henry Staples. In 1944, 22 years after her first teaching, she again assumed responsibilities as principal of our school and continues as such.

In the Evergreen school house on January 31, 1928, the Evergreen Community League was organized with J. L. Staples, pres.; J. P. Paulett, v. pres.; Elsie Marks, sec'y. and treas.

Several years in the early twenties the community did not furnish enough pupils for both rooms of our school to be run. In 1929 the Martin's Field School was discontinued and a bus brought pupils to Evergreen and carried all high school students to Appomattox. From this time on both rooms have run.

During the years of depression our teachers were Miss Ursula Wooldridge and Miss Lucille Dickerson. Miss Ursula, now Mrs. Otis Davis, was the only pupil of our school who afterwards came back and taught.

It was during the seven years of Ursula Wooldridge's teaching that a well was bored on the school property. Before then water was gotten from a house across the road.

About this time so many pupils attended Evergreen school, classes could be given only a few minutes each. To relieve this situation, Miss Minnie Chocklett was appointed teacher and for several months taught in the new store house.

During the school years of Misses Aileen McClenny and Louise Lewis, the 2nd World War broke out. From 1942 to 1945, many Evergreen school boys served their country. We are one of few communities in this country where so many boys fought and not a single life was lost. The community has three four-star mothers: Mrs. Annie Paulett, Mrs. Corinne Paulett and Mrs. Ruth Clapp.

Since the war, electric lights have been added to the school and a lunch room has been built, and still later a wellpump added which brought water into the school.

The Evergreen Student Cooperative Association is the second oldest in the county, Pamplin being one year older.

The community and the county have benefitted for half a century from the success of the Evergreen school. Many pupils have gone on to outstanding success in their chosen careers, and Evergreen alumni are in all walks of life. Many of them are from families whose children in two and three generations have been Evergreen pupils. The achievements of the past are a challenge to the future.

(Note: The Times-Virginian is indebted to patrons of the Evergreen school, particularly Mrs. Z. E. Cheatham and Mrs. J. K. Hamilton for their research in gathering and compiling the history of this school).

[Ev]ergreen [Te]achers

[The] following have served as [teachers] at the Evergreen school, [which] recently observed its fiftieth [anniver]sary:

[Miss] Emma Smith (1 year, 1904-[0]5).
[Miss] Addie Dawson (1 year, 1905-[0]6).
[Miss] Bertha Wooldridge (2 years, [19]06-07; 07-08).
[Miss] Sallie Hunter (3 or more [yea]rs).
[Miss] Emma Cawthorn (1 year, [1]914-15).
[Miss] Margaret McDonald (1 year)
[Miss] Mary Bingham (1 year, 1917)
[...] Mamie Inge (3 years)
[...] Macie Inge (2 years)
[...] Emmaline Shupe (1 year)
[...] Betty Morris (1 year)
[...] Grace Dawson (1 year)
[...] Lucie Butler (1 year).
[...] Lois Whitehead (1 year)
[...] Elsie Marks (4 years)
[...] Ursula Wooldridge (7 years)
[...] Lucille Dickerson (8 years)
[...] Ellen Wilson (3 years)
[...] Aileen McClenny (5 years)
[...] Louise Lewis (5 years)
[...] Marie Hamlin (1 year)
[...] Edith Gregory (1 year)
[...] Virginia Martin (2 years)
[...] Lucie B. Staples (10 years)
[...] Olivia Woodson (1 year).
[...] Clara Garrett (7 years)
[...] June Babcock (½ year)
[...] Minnie Chocklett (½ year)
[...] Dorothy Blythe (1/4 year)

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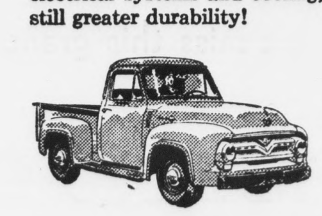

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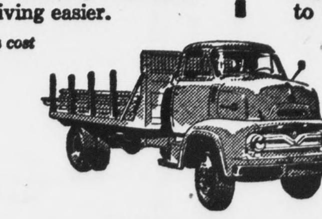

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